

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 KUWAIT 02660 161213Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----161218Z 017624 /50

O 161135Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8028

INFO USINT BAGHDAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO

S E C R E T KUWAIT 2660

EXDIS

BAGHDAD ALSO FOR UNDERSECRETARY HABIB

SECRET

SECRET

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DEPARTMENT PASS SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SY

SUBJECT: BRIEFING OF ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER ON PRESIDENT  
CARTER'S MEETING WITH SYRIAN PRESIDENT ASAD

REF: SECTO 4023

1. IN THE ABSENCE OF FONMIN SHAIKH SABAH AL-AHMED WHO EXTENDED HIS TOUR TO THE FAR EAST WITH AN UNSCHEDULED VISIT TO ISLAMABAD, I BRIEFED ACTING FONMIN AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR CABINET AFFAIRS ABDUL-AZIZ HUSAIN MAY 16 ON PRESIDENT CARTER'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT ASAD ALONG LINES REFTEL.

2. THIS WAS SECOND BRIEFING ON MEETING FOR MINISTER HUSAIN SINCE SYRIAN DEPUTY PRIME/FONMIN ABDUL HALIM KHADDAM HAD PAID A FLYING VISIT TO KUWAIT MARCH 15 FOR THE SAME PURPOSE. HUSAIN SAID THAT KHADDAM HAD MENTIONED THE SAME POINTS CONTAINED IN MY BRIEFING. IN ADDITION, HE HAD STRESSED THE QUESTION OF PALESTINIAN REFUGEES LOCATED IN OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES BESIDES LEBANON. SYRIAN VIEW WAS THAT ANY PALESTINIAN SETTLEMENT WITHOUT A CLEAR POLICY ON THIS MATTER WOULD BE INCOMPLETE. THESE PALESTINIANS PRESENTLY LIVING IN OTHER COUNTRIES MUST KNOW WHAT THE POSSIBILITIES FOR THEIR FUTURE ARE. IN SYRIA'S VIEW, THEY SHOULD BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMES, ALTHOUGH THE ALTERNATIVE OF COMPENSATION FOR THEIR LOSS COULD ALSO BE CONSIDERED. HUSAIN ALSO CONFIRMED THAT KHADDAM MADE ONE POINT WHICH HAD NOT BEEN CONTAINED IN MY BRIEFING NAMELY, THAT ANY PALESTINIAN SOLUTION SHOULD NOT BE AT THE EXPENSE OF JORDAN. HE HAD CONFIRMED ASAD'S POINT CONTAINED REFTEL THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN A PALESTINIAN  
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ENTITY AND JORDAN SHOULD BE FORMULATED BETWEEN THE TWO STATES.

3. KHADDAM HAD TOLD THE AMIR THAT ASAD INFORMED PRESIDENT CARTER OF AGREEMENT AMONG ALL ARABS THAT THE PLO SHOULD BE PRESENT AT A GENEVA CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, IT WAS NOT YET DECIDED WHETHER THEY SHOULD ATTEND AS AN INDEPENDENT DELEGATION OR AS PART OF A UNIFIED ARAB DELEGATION. SYRIA DOES NOT OBJECT TO A SINGLE UNIFIED ARAB DELEGATION, BUT KHADDAM NOTED THAT THE PALESTINIANS WANT TO BE INVITED INDEPENDENTLY. HUSAIN COMMENTED THAT KUWAIT'S POLICY IS THAT THE DECISION OF WHETHER TO JOIN A UNIFIED ARAB DELEGATION SHOULD BE LEFT TO THE PALESTINIANS THEMSELVES. KUWAIT WAS NOT OPPOSED TO THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ARAB SIDE INTO A SINGLE DELEGATION.

4. DURING DISCUSSIONS ON POSSIBLE ROLE FOR UNITED NATIONS OBSERVERS, THE AMIR HAD ASKED KHADDAM WHETHER SYRIA HAD ANY SPECIFIC PREFERENCE AS TO THE NATIONALITIES

WHICH WOULD COMPRISE THE UN FORCES. KHADDAM REPLIED THAT THIS DECISION COULD BE LEFT TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL. INSOFAR AS THE QUESTION OF INSTALLATION OF SECURITY POSTS, SUCH AS THOSE IN THE SINAI, ASAD TOLD PRESIDENT CARTER THAT THESE WOULD NOT BE USEFUL IN THE GOLAN AREA BECAUSE IT IS SO SMALL--ONLY 60 KILOMETERS FROM THE BORDER TO DAMASCUS. THE PRESENCE OF UN OBSERVER FORCES IN THE DEMILITARIZED ZONES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE SYRIAN/ISRAELI BORDER WOULD BE SUFFICIENT WITHOUT THE INSTALLATION OF ANY SPECIAL TECHNICAL DEVICES.

5. HUSAIN REPORTED THAT HE WAS OPTIMISTIC THAT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE COULD BE STARTED IN 1977, ALTHOUGH HE RECOGNIZED THAT QUITE A LONG TIME WOULD BE NECESSARY TO REACH ITS FINAL RESULTS.

MAESTRONE

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NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED TO SECRETARY.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld  
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